

**WHAT TO Watch**

**SMITHTOWN**

**TOWN BOARD.** Smithtown's town board is scheduled to meet tomorrow at 7 p.m. at Eugene A. Cannataro Senior Citizen Center, 420 Middle Country Rd., Smithtown. A public hearing is planned about a cellphone tower height increase at the Paul J. Fitzpatrick Country Club. **Check [newsday.com](http://newsday.com) for updates.**

**LONG BEACH**

**CITY COUNCIL.** The Long Beach City Council is scheduled to meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Long Beach City Hall, 1 W. Chester St. Check Patrick Whittle's **Twitter updates @pxwhittle.**

**OYSTER BAY**

**TOWN BOARD.** The Oyster Bay town board has scheduled a meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday in the Town Board Hearing Room, Town Hall East, 54 Audrey Ave. Check Bill Bleyer's **Twitter updates @BillBleyer.**

**RIVERHEAD**

**TOWN BOARD.** The Riverhead town board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday at 2 p.m. at town hall, 200 Howell Ave. Check Mitch Freedman's **Twitter updates @eastwatch.**

**NOW ONLINE**  
Catch up with these stories today at [newsday.com/towns](http://newsday.com/towns)

**TOPtweet**

 Not hitting every light on Hempstead Turnpike makes all the difference  
**#goodstarttotheday**  
**@Cholee613**



Shawn Hunkins, his wife, Andrea, and daughters Natalia, 12, Arianna, 2, and Elaina, 9 months, visit their future home at The Veterans Way in Islandia. ■ **Video: [newsday.com/suffolk](http://newsday.com/suffolk)**

PHOTO BY HEATHER WALSH

**ISLANDIA**  
**Home front**  
**of their own**

Six who served in Afghanistan, Iraq chosen to live in vets-only subdivision

BY MARTIN C. EVANS  
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Six post-9/11 veterans will be home for the holidays this Christmas — in houses built especially for them in a new, all-veterans subdivision in Islandia.

The three-bedroom houses are being built by a local builders organization with donated materials and labor, on land donated by CA Technologies, and will be sold for \$199,000 each. That is less than half what they would normally cost, according to Long Island

Home Builders Care Development Corp., the organization building the houses.

For Paul Milazzo, 28, a former Marine Corps lance corporal now living in Valley Stream, the home could not come at a better time. His wife, Marianne, is expecting their first child in a few weeks.

"I think it's great that we all have a military background in common," said Milazzo, as he and his soon-to-be new neighbors walked through the building site, a 3.5-acre tract on Motor Parkway. "We have all

been brothers, and always will be."

The six veterans were chosen by a panel of Veterans of Foreign Wars post commanders from among some 130 people who served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

The homes are expected to be completed by the end of November.

Each of the other recipients — Jason Broyles, 32, of North Bellmore; Shawn Hunkins, 27, of Bohemia; Eric Petry, 28, of East Islip; Thomas Schreiber, 32, of East Rockaway; and Timothy Ward, 33, of Bayport — has said the high cost of housing threatened to thwart their desire to live on Long Island, close to family and friends.

Military families often find it difficult to save up money to buy homes on Long Island. A lower-ranking lance corporal like Milazzo earns a base pay of about \$24,000 per year after four years of service.

Hunkins, a Marine Reserve staff sergeant, is living with his wife and three children in his in-laws' basement in Bohemia. Petry, a recently discharged Marine with a wife and daughter, splits time between his parents' and his in-laws' homes.

"Without this, I'd never be able to afford Long Island," said Milazzo, who until recently was living with his in-laws in Ronkonkoma. "For us, this comes just in time."

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